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HIAWATHA FIRE-RESCUE

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MIKE NESSLAGE, FIRE CHIEF

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT FOR HOUSE BURN

DATE: 8/9/2017

There is an item on tonight's agenda to approve an agreement between the City and Robarb I LLC (Brett Kellogg). The purpose of this agreement is to allow the fire department to use the house located 4900 Blairs Ferry Rd, in Monroe Township, for live fire training.

Mr. Kellogg contacted us some time ago inquiring if we would like to burn this particular house. He has had all the utilities removed and has had an asbestos abatement done. I will be following the normal regulatory procedures in regards to notification of neighbors, DNR, and Linn County Health. He also is aware that he is responsible for the final disposition of this property.

Our target date to start using the house is August 29th. We will do both non fire, and live fire training sessions in the house. Because of proximity to power transmission lines, we will not completely burn the house down.

Live fire training in a real house, is the best experience that a firefighter can get, short of an actual unplanned fire. We are able to plan and coordinate this training so that it is as safe as possible, yet as real as possible. To give you a more linear idea, on a scale of 1 to 10 toward realism…if 10 is an actual fire, this ranks at an 8 or 9. The Kirkwood burn building would rank at a 4 or 5. The intangible value of house burns is immeasurable. Morale, recruitment, teamwork, safety training, and publicity that result from successful live fire training all are invaluable.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION NO. 17-
City Council

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE STRUCTURAL FIRE TRAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HIAWATHA AND ROBARB I, LLC

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIAWATHA, IOWA: that a structural fire training agreement is made between the City of Hiawatha and Robarb I, LLC, owner of real property at 4900 Blairs Ferry Road, Monroe Township, and allows Hiawatha Fire Department to have unrestricted access to the property and structure for live fire training with target start date scheduled for August 29; the agreement is hereby accepted, and the Mayor and City Clerk are directed to sign the Structural Fire Training Agreement.

AYES:
NAYS:
ABSENT:

PASSED AND APPROVED this 16th day of August, 2017.

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Bill Bennett, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kelly Kornegor, City Clerk